

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0005] of the present application as published with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] So-called “caller ID” systems are well-known and readily available. The systems are also known as calling number delivery systems or CND ~~systems~~ systems. Using such systems, telephone companies offer the ability to see the name and telephone number of a caller using a display box or on a caller-ID-enabled telephone. Similar capabilities are available for both cellular and landline-based telephone users. This service may be used, for example, to screen unwanted telephone calls completely or to screen certain telephone calls at specific times of the day. Still other systems exist ~~the~~ that permit “distinctive rings” to be used to aurally identify callers to a call-receiving party. In these systems, the telephone is programmed to ring in a certain tone pattern depending upon the identity of the caller.

Please replace paragraphs [0008] and [0009] of the present application as published with the following single paragraph (no other changes were made – see [0006] of international application no. PCT/US03/41934 as published on 12 Aug 2004 under international publication no. WO 2004/068823 A2):

[0008] U.S. Pat. No. 4,672,660 describes yet another method and system for call-receiving parties to identify telephone callers prior to answering the telephone. Each call-receiving party who received incoming calls is assigned a plurality of numbers, which the subscriber later gives to individuals and organizations from which the subscriber wishes to identify telephone calls prior to answering. When one of the individuals or organizations telephones using the number that the subscriber gave to that entity, the ‘660 system generates a digitally synthesized vocal announcement of at least the number being called. Since the subscriber knows the entity to which that announced number was assigned, the subscriber likewise knows the identity of the caller.

Please replace paragraph [0013] of the present application as published with the following amended paragraph:

[0013] In one embodiment, the present invention comprises a system for identifying an incoming caller to a call-receiving party, the system comprising means for identifying a telephone number from which an incoming call has been placed; means for associating a plurality of aural announcements with the identified telephone number, wherein the plurality of aural announcements identify the incoming caller to the call-receiving party; and means for selecting and playing, upon receipt of the incoming call, a first one of the plurality of aural announcements ~~announcement~~ in response to receipt of a first selected ring pulse, and for selecting and playing a second one of the plurality of aural announcements ~~announcement~~ in response to receipt of a second ring pulse.